Abstract of the Disclosure

Methods for preserving ophthalmic compositions are disclosed. In one embodiment, such compositions include a liquid medium and an antimicrobial component which is preferably substantially non-oxidative. Compositions which include a liquid medium and antimicrobial peptide magainins, present in an amount effective as a preservative, are also disclosed. Preserved compositions useful for administering a therapeutic component to the eyes or caring for contact lenses are also included within the scope of the present invention.